

GREENVILLE EMPLOYEES' MESSENGER

PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE



THE CITY EMPLOYEE FAMILY DAY PICNIC!

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Dear City Employees:

On January 22, 2005, the City Council conducted its annual planning session. During this half-day retreat, the Mayor and Councilmembers discussed priorities for City government during 2005. The Council listed numerous goals for the coming year. At the end of the planning session, the Council approved the following ten goals for 2005:

- 1. Form effective partnerships
- 2. Organize City services to meet the needs of the citizens
- 3. Increase the technological capability of the City
- 4. Develop understanding and broader citizen participation in City government
- 5. Enhance diversity
- 6. Emphasize the importance of neighborhood stabilization and revitalization
- 7. Promote economic development in the City
- 8. Provide a safe community
- 9. Develop transportation initiatives to meet growth and ensure a sustainable community
- 10. Maintain the financial stability of the City

Based on the direction provided by the City Council, staff developed several objectives and action items for each of the ten goals. The goals, objectives, and action items were approved by the City Council on March 7, 2005. The goals document can be found on the City's new web site. I hope that each of you will take the time to review the City's plan of work for 2005.

A major purpose for establishing the goals was to provide the City staff with guidance in preparing the 2005-2006 budget. The budget presented to the Council on May 12, 2005 incorporated numerous recommendations to implement the Council goals.

On June 9, 2005, the City Council approved the recommended budget for 2005-2006. Of note to City employees, the approved budget includes a 3% market adjustment pay increase. The budget also includes funding to continue the merit pay program.

I look forward to working with all of you to implement the City Council goals during 2005.

Sincerely.

Wayne Bowens

Wayne Bowers City Manager

LUNCH WITH THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Wayne Bowers recently started a monthly Lunch with the City Manager program, which is an informal lunch meeting held at City Hall. This event provides an opportunity for the Manager and employees to get to know each other and talk about current issues of interest. Three employees are selected each month from those who have submitted their names for consideration. Entry forms are available in each department and from the City Manager's Office. Only one entry per person is necessary.

HAPPENINGS

CITY PICNIC



Family Day is back with a bang! The events kicked off June 4th with the golf tournament. The tournament is growing with 7 teams of golfers hitting the links at Bradford Creek to compete for prizes and fun. The winning team (pictured left) was made up of Doug Branch, Rob Jones, Jay Morris,

and Chris Matthews. They shot a score of 59 in the best-ball tournament. Have pity on the foursome pictured at right (Neil

foursome pictured at right (Neil Holthouser, Les Everett, Harry Hamilton, and Dave Holec). They came in last place and earned the duffer's award. We won't tell you their score, but they claim they had fun anyway.



Early in the morning of the picnic, dozens of people gathered at River Park North for the fishing contest. Despite the heat, this year's field seemed to have a good time.

Here's a list of the winners of the Fishing Tournament: for Largest Pan Fish Age 6 and Under 1st Place - Noah Mills 2nd Place - Grace Anne Hardee Age 7 – 12 1st Place - Matthew Long 2nd Place - Tanner Coble

3rd Place - Conner Coble

Age 17 and Over 1st Place - Harry Teele, Sr.



The softball tournament, despite a few scary

moments thanks to an outfield collision, provided loads of fun at Boyd Lee Park. The Police Department team beat the Fire & Rescue and the Public

Works / Planning teams.

Also in the park, several hundred people (employees and their families) enjoyed the rides, games, music, food, and fellowship. Kids were lined up to get animal balloons from "Checkers The Clown." The Fire & Rescue Department showcased their fire

safety house as well as an ambulance and fire truck for kids of all ages to look at. Greenville Police Officers displayed their Crime Scene vehicle.



The baking contest was a huge success for the three people lucky enough to judge...and for the winners as well. Did you see Lisa Smith's winning cake? It tasted as good as it looked! All of the desserts were outstanding, but it was a contest...so, here are this year's winners:

Cakes

1st Place - Lisa Smith (PW) Strawberries & Cream

2nd Place - Betty Hudson (PW) Pineapple

3rd Place - Sue Kepler (GPD Retiree Spouse) Cherry Cheese Cake

Pies

1st Place - Betty Hudson (PW) Lemon Pie 2nd Place - Sue Kepler - Lemon Meringue 3rd Place - Sue Kepler - Chocolate Meringue **Others**

1st Place - Robin Edwards (PW) Banana Pudding **2nd Place -** Karen Braxton (PW) Chocolate Eclair

Congratulations, kudos, and a big thank you to everyone who helped with the picnic, but especially Laura Dupree (HR), Linda McCarthy (HR), Karina Bowen (GPD), Tim Corley (PW), Dean Foy (R/P), Bob

Kasey (HR), Sylvia Brown (P&CD), Pamela Reid (FR), Frances Bland (IT), Paula Loftin (FS) for all of their hard work and dedication to putting together the picnic. They did a fabulous job!

Also, thank you to the Mayor and City Council for budgeting the money for the picnic both this year and next.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEE WINS EARNHARDT AWARD

ECU graduate student and part-time Recreation and Parks employee, Tony Ammirati recently applied for and was awarded an Earnhardt Legend Leadership Award. The award (a grant of \$7,000) will be used to purchase interactive equipment and develop educational programs, which were needed but not funded, at the Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center at River Park North.

Ammirati explains, "The idea is to have classroom teachers download the lesson plans and work with the students before they come here on a field trip. Then, when they come out to the Park, they can get their hands on the equipment and really learn."

Interactive equipment to be purchased includes a microscope that projects onto TV, a model of a town to demonstrate storm water runoff, videos, animal skins, and more. Ammirati hopes that the cutting edge program will help make the Science and Nature Center the premiere science center in Eastern North Carolina.

The Dale Earnhardt Foundation Leadership Awards are set up to honor those taking initiative to raise awareness of wetland ecosystems and other environmental topics. Ammirati was one of

at the recent value of the

seven winners chosen from a field of 100 applicants. He and the six other awards winners recently attended a ceremony at Dale Earnhardt, Incorporated where they toured the DEI facilities and got to meet with the late NASCAR legend's wife, Teresa.



OPERATION ONSLOW INN

20 Members of Greenville's Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) task force participated in a special training exercise June 3rd, 4th and 5th. They, along with 9 other USAR teams and dozens of agencies from across the state,

converged on Jacksonville, NC for Operation Onslow Inn.

During this round-the-clock operation, teams were confronted with a variety of challenges as the organizers demolished the former

motel complex. Training opportunities included search & rescue, metal cutting, and confined space, as well as special scenarios where

buildings had fallen in on top of cars and especially heavy concrete chunks needed special shoring up.





Lewis Coble, EMS specialist with GF/R, says, "You can sit in a classroom all day long, but learning how to apply it in real-life situations means all the world." Team members were up early, trained all day, and cleaned up in the evening. "We enjoyed it, but it was long, hard & steady days," said Coble, "and our guys really shined."

WELLNESS WALK

The annual National Employees Health and Fitness Day Walk was a huge success this year. The one-mile walk started and finished at the Elm Street Park. Police provided escorts at our two road crossings, and Kelvin Yarrell and Parks Maintenance provided the shelter, chairs and ice water. We had a record turnout of 85 participants this year! It was a wonderful day and enjoyable for all. We will plan on it again next year.

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

(submitted by Wendy Ross)



On Wednesday, May 18, the City of Greenville celebrated National Public Works Week by hosting a breakfast in the Public Works assembly room. The breakfast was our effort to show our appreciation to our employees and volunteers for a job well done throughout the year. Public Works employees cooked and served breakfast for more than 100 people. Special thanks to our friends throughout the city who joined us in celebrating this special event.

National Public Works Week is observed each year during the third full week of May. The week honors those who work in professions that provide and maintain public facilities

and services. It is also used to increase awareness of the contributions Public Works employees and volunteers make in keeping our community safe and functioning smoothly. Public Works professionals are truly central to our daily lives. They are the people who maintain and improve the systems and services vital to a community's health, safety, and comfort. Indeed, "Public Works is Everywhere You Look."





POLICE MEMORIAL & AWARDS CEREMONY

The following members of the Greenville PD were honored at the annual Memorial & Awards Ceremony held May 12th: **Police Medal -** Officer Diana Smock; **Outstanding Police Performance Award -** Officer Michael Blunt, Officer Stephen Pyles, Cpl. Will Harrell, Sgt. Nicholas Lucas, Animal Control Officer Johnnie Butler; **Meritorious Police Duty Award -** Officer Michael Dawson, Officer Timothy McLaughlin; **Honorable Service Award -** Lt. John Teel and Capt. Janice Harris. Congratulations for going above and beyond the call of duty on a job well done.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL (submitted by Donetta Steiner)

Thanks to everyone who made the 2005 International Festival a success. This year's International Festival offered everyone an array of great fun, activities, and entertainment. More than 20 international vendors and clubs offered a wide selection of

food, culture, and entertainment to all.

Special thanks to Theresa Holley for stepping up to the plate and leading the City in this exciting event. The City of Greenville would also like to thank all of the City employees who worked hard to make this year's International Festival an exciting and successful event. Your dedication and teamwork made this year's festival the best yet!

OPTIMIST CLUB'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

(submitted by Donetta Steiner)

Congratulations to Sgt. Ted Sauls of the Greenville Police Department for being named the Optimist Club's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Ted was one of three recipients honored at The Optimist Club's Annual Respect for Law Banquet, held on May 23, 2005. The City of Greenville would like to thank Sgt. Sauls for his continuous service and dedication to the community and The Greenville Police Department.

TEAMWORK FROM POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS SAVE RESIDENTS FROM FIRE

(submitted by Donetta Steiner)

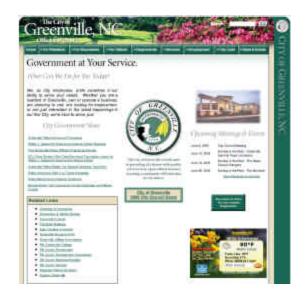
Officers Keith Sawyer and Ronald White saved the lives of several Greenville residents from an apartment fire on May 26, 2005. As the officers were driving down Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive around 1:30 am, they spotted smoke coming from an apartment of a building at 603 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive near Albemarle Avenue. Keith and Ronald discovered a fire in Apartment number four of the building. The two officers called the fire department for help and began evacuating the residents of the building. Thanks to Keith and Ronald, all residents were evacuated safely. Because of their quick response to the call, Greenville firefighters were able to limit the fire damage to one room and extinguish the fire within ten minutes. The City of Greenville would like to thank everyone involved in making this rescue a success. Keep up the good work!

NEW CITY WEBSITE

After months of planning, the City's new website rolled out to critical acclaim. Well, we like it a lot, anyway. Nancy Gossett and Marc Dudley put in a tremendous amount of time and energy to freshen-up the City's Internet presence.

Head over to www.greenvillenc.gov and you will find a wealth of information about the City, its departments and services. This is phase 1 of the update. In phase 2, you will find more interactive tools to help you get the most of City services without leaving the comfort of your home. There will be online forms and web-based payment solutions.

Congratulations to Nancy, Marc, and all the others who put so much time and effort gathering information and creating each department's webpages. Your hard work is appreciated.



GREENVILLE OFFICER NAMED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICER OF THE YEAR (submitted by Donetta Steiner)

Congratulations to Diana Smock of the Greenville Police Department for being named the Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce Officer of the Year. Diana was one of two recipients awarded this special honor at the Chamber's Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner on May 10, 2005. The City of Greenville would like to commend Diana on this great achievement.

UNITED WAY

The United Way campaign will run August through September. Once again, we hope City employees will be contributors for this great cause that gives to so many of our community organizations. In addition to contributing through payroll deductions, please look for and support the following annual events: the basketball tournament (July), Chili Cook-off (August), the cookbook, a repeat of the highly successful "dress down day," and the yard sale.



Les Everett recently graduated from the Municipal Administration Course of UNC's School of Government. The program is designed for those whose responsibilities require a broad understanding of functions beyond individual areas of specialization. The course covers local government law, organization and management, finance and budgeting, personnel law and administration, planning and regulation of development, and the delivery of specific city or county services.

Upcoming Blood Drives

August 10 th	Public Works	10 AM - 4 PM
November 9 th	GAFC	11 AM - 4 PM
January 11 th	Public Works	10 AM - 4 PM
March 16 th	GAFC	11 AM - 4 PM
June 6 th 7 th	GUC	10 AM - 4 PM

STORK REPORT:

Congratulations to:

Boyd Lee (R/P) on the birth of his new granddaughter, Rachel Hope Colby (2/25/05) **Chantae Gooby (P&CD)** on the birth of her son, Owen Patrick Gooby (3/25/05)

Roger Davis (IT) on the birth of his grandson, Erik Hearring (5/4/05)

Cathy Williams (GPD) and Carlton Williams (GPD) on the birth of son, Jordan Spencer Williams (6/1/05)

NEW EMPLOYEES

Beverly Barnes (PWD) Administrative Services Specialist

Anthony Bowen (GPD) Police Officer
Chad Bowen (GPD) Police Officer
Jeremy Brittenham (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer I
Justin Buttitta (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee
Juracy Clark (FS) Collections Technician
Francis Conklin (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee
Steven Cottingham (GPD) Police Officer Trainee
Matthew Cox (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee
Matthew Cox (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee
Diertra Crandol (R/P) Clerk Typist
Gerhard Currier (PWD) Welder
Brian Dorman (PWD) Traffic Signal Technician I
Ricardo Echevarria (PWD) Refuse Collector

Alvaro Elias (GPD) Police Officer
Allison Farrington (GPD) Police Officer Trainee
Hugh Fisher (PWD) Civil Engineer II
Mark Glass (F/R) Fire Rescue Officer I
Steve Hawley (CMO) Public Information Officer
Rhonda Jordan (GPD) Neighborhood Services
Coordinator

Chris Lancaster (FR) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee George McGehee (PWD) Laborer Dondra Perkins (Planning) Secretary I Cameron Smith (FR) Fire Rescue Officer Trainee Eddie Summers (R/P) Maintenance Technician I Ronald White (GPD) Police Officer Trainee

PROMOTIONS

Robert Burns (GPD) Police Corporal Thomas Forrest (GPD) Police Captain and Commander of Administration Bureau James Freeman (PWD) Equipment Operator II-

James Freeman (PWD) Equipment Operator II-Sanitation

Herald Hines (GPD) Police Lieutenant and Commander of "D" Platoon

Kenneth Laws (GPD) Police Sergeant

Moses Streeter (PWD) Equipment Operator II-Streets Debra Vick (R/P) Administrative Secretary Anthony White (GPD) Police Lieutenant and Commander of the Special Investigations Unit Vaughan Wiles (GPD) Police Corporal Carlton Williams (GPD) Police Sergeant Willie Wilson (PWD) Equipment Operator III-Sanitation Ronald Wooten (PWD) Mechanic II

Did You Know? Gas grills have a higher fire risk than charcoal grills. Leaks and breaks are the leading cause, accounting for nearly half of gas grill fires. For more information about grilling safety, look for the summer safety tips at www.greenvillenc.gov.

MARVIN DAVIS CREATING NEW CITY / COUNTY SYNERGY

In a move that is hoped will help the economic prosperity of Greenville and Pitt County, the City of Greenville and the Pitt County Development Commission are establishing a new partnership beginning July 1, 2005.

Deputy City Manager Marvin Davis will be a City employee assigned to the Commission for two years to work on economic development projects. City Manager Wayne Bowers says, "Marvin Davis is very knowledgeable about city government and how local governments can facilitate private economic development activities. This experience should assist the Commission in its efforts to create jobs throughout Pitt County, which will generate a direct benefit to the citizens of Greenville."

This partnership meets the goals set by Council at their planning session in January in furthering economic development and forming new partnerships to bring about economic development.

Steve Hawley is the new Public Information Officer for the City. You may remember Steve as the morning weatherman on WITN-TV.

Steve worked in broadcast news (both radio and television) for nearly 15 years, but most recently worked in Jacksonville, NC for Onslow County Schools. There, he ran the video production studio and worked with students and faculty alike, producing educational and training videos as well as running many other communications programs.

"I see this as the perfect fit for me. I'd been searching for a PIO job when I was at Channel 7. Then, when this opened up, I couldn't wait to come back to Greenville and get right to work," said Steve. "I love this city and the people here have always been great to me."

Steve and his wife Karen have been married 11 years. They have two kids, Abby & Ethan. In what little spare time they have, they love to go to the Crystal Coast and sit on the beach.





Carl has been with the City for 8 years now, as a Code Inspector, a Planner, he managed the City's Hurricane Floyd recovery process, and most recently, he served as the Neighborhood Services Coordinator.

Carl enjoyed his work in Neighborhood Services, but says, "We had small successes there. I have always felt that the only way to make real progress for the people of the city was to pair up with a project like revitalization. That way, you're making a big difference for a lot of homes, instead of just one at a time."

This chance to help improve housing has Carl excited, but he is learning to be patient as the process of planning and documentation can take a while. "It's all part of a long-term approach where we have the chance to really help the citizens of west Greenville not only to have better housing, but also increase home ownership."

Carl is a native of Greenville and a graduate of ECU. He and his wife of 13 years, Melissa, have two children, Cameron (8) and Maggie (6).

Rhonda Jordan is now heading up the Neighborhood Services Division of the Greenville Police Department. Mrs. Jordan brings nearly 20 years of experience working for Pitt County Mental Health to the position of Neighborhood Services Coordinator. She is happy to be working for the City and looks forward to the challenges ahead.

"My first big challenge is just learning all of the ordinances," says Rhonda. That will be quite a challenge as the Neighborhood Services Division is responsible for enforcement of minimal housing codes, public nuisances, animal control, and parking enforcement. Rhonda says she is "really looking forward to working with this great team of competent, professional people."

When not working for the City, she is also an Associate Minister at Cornerstone Church where she helps with juvenile interventions. She is trying to change the sense of hopelessness that some children have and get them out of their cycle of violence.



Rhonda is a native of Louisburg, NC, but has lived here nearly 30 years, beginning as an undergrad student at ECU. She has been married to Gaston Jordan for nearly 19 years. Their son, Gaston, Jr., just graduated from Rose H.S. and plans to attend NC A&T.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL 2005

Five years - Chris Cieszko (F/R), Katherine Lilley (FS), Steven Marsh (F/R), Donald Redmond (PWD), Brian Salter (F/R) Ten years - Danny Anderson (PWD), Robert Burns (GPD), Billy Hill (GPD), Chris Hinson (R/P), Polly Jones (CCO) Fifteen years - Jamie Brown (GPD), David Lawrence (GPD), Perry Smith (PWD)

MAY 2005

Five years - Scott Stanton (GPD), Brian Thompson (PWD) Ten years - Stuart Stevens (GPD) Fifteen years - Donna Raynor (CMO) Anthony White (GPD) Twenty-Five years - Linwood Hines (F/R) Thirty years - Hyman Ebron (PWD), Terry Grimes (PWD)

JUNE 2005

Five years - Nicky Atkinson (R/P), Karina Bowen (GPD), Michael Cato (R/P), James Duke (R/P) Ten years - Roger Davis (IT), Vaughan Wiles (GPD) Twenty years - Kevin Smeltzer (GPD), Russell Spain (PWD) Twenty-Five years - Bill Twine (R/P)

Russell Spain, Assistant Street Superintendent (PW), is celebrating 20 years of service to the City. He has seen a lot of modernization of equipment in his career in street maintenance.

Russell says he enjoys the people he works with and that the best part of the job is, "having excellent supervisors below me, and great people reporting up. That makes my job a whole lot easier and more fun."

Russell has been married to his wife, Joyce, for 11 years. He has two daughters, two stepdaughters and three grandkids.



CONGRATULATIONS

2005 Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Institute Graduates Wayne Bowers (CMO), Mike Burton (F/R), David Brown (PW), and Shari Dennison (GPD). Congratulations to Dallas Mayo (PW), who was declared "Honorary Alumnus" of the Institute for all of his hard work and time spent in the program.



Kevin Smeltzer, Major, Greenville P.D., has seen huge changes since he first picked up a uniform, badge and a gun 20 years ago. Back when he started working for the City, that's all they issued you. Now, in addition to those and other items, officers are issued computers.

The Major started as a Patrol Officer and has worked his way up the ranks to become second in command. Kevin says he likes the challenge of administration, but misses being on the street. If you head down 5th Street during lunch most days, you'll likely see him on the street - power walking with Chief Simonowich.

Kevin has been married to Carmen for 17 years. They have two children, Tyler (15) and Sarah (11).

Bill Twine (Superintendent of Recreation) first started working for the City in 1974. He'd have 30 years in, but left, and came back, then left, then came back again. So if you're counting, he is celebrating 25 years in service.

Bill started as a Recreation Coordinator, working on programs for special populations like Special Olympics, wheelchair sports, and Camp Sunshine. He has also helped develop and run outdoor programs, Bradford Creek, and the Aquatics and Fitness Center. He says, "It's been fun. I've done a lot of different things and am so glad to have had the opportunity to do a lot."

He loves his job, the people he works with, and the culture here in Greenville where if people come up with an idea for a different recreational opportunity or park, Rec. & Parks people try to find a way to make it work.



Bill and Margaret have been married for 30 years and have two sons, William and Reid.



Hyman Ebron (Sanitation Superintendent, PW) has logged 30 years of service with the City. He says Public Works is a pretty close department with some of the best employees in the City.

He started his career in the CETA program, working on the City's beautification. "It was tough back then, totin' garbage on your back," says Hyman, "especially when it was hot. You really had to want to work." When he's not working, Hyman likes to tinker around building things in his workshop.

Hyman has a 27-year old daughter and two grandkids.

Terry Grimes is an equipment driver for Public Works, driving a containerized truck and a front-end loader. He started his 30-year career as a laborer and has been happy to see better equipment come along through the years.

Terry says he enjoys, "Just going out and getting the job done. It's easier when you are around so many good people like this."

Terry is a widower, but was married to his wife, Josephine, for 15 years. He has a son and a daughter. He recently had a birthday, but won't let me tell you how old he is now



GRADUATIONS

T. David Brown (F/R), Pitt Community College Bryant Waters (F/R), Pitt Community College Ann Tess (F/R), Barton College Betty Moseley (HR), Pitt Community College Wanda Elks' (CCO) daughter, Kristen, graduated from North Pitt High School and plans to attend ECU Rhonda Jordan's (GPD) son, Gaston, Jr., graduated from Rose H.S. and plans to attend NC A&T. Nancy Brown's (FS) son, Brandon graduated from South Central HS and will attend Louisburg College Carlton & Cathy Williams' (GPD) son, Paul, graduated from D.H. Conley H.S. and will attend ECU Janie Teele's (CMO) granddaughter, Sha-Li, graduated from high school in Atlanta and will attend Xavier University on a full scholarship Marion Joyner's (FS) granddaughter, Courtney, graduated from high school in Durham and will go to

MARRIAGES

John Hall (PW) married Jennifer Black.

Angelene Edwards (FS) married Frankie Brinkley.

Shari Williams (GPD) married Tony Dennison (GPD)

UNC-Charlotte



Congratulations to **Lisa Smith (PW)** (pictured with her daughter after winning the cake baking contest at the picnic). The State Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors has licensed Lisa as a Professional Engineer. Lisa says it's a good thing she got it on the first try, because the 8-hour examination was grueling and she's not sure she would have tried again.

We'll try to get a picture of her accepting her certificate in the next newsletter.

Best wishes to **Tim Spencer (PW)**, whose house burned down

OUR CONDOLENCES TO:

Linda Mims (P&CD) on the loss of her mother James Carlton (GPD) on the loss of his mother Karen Braxton (PW) on the loss of her father Janie Teele (CMO) on the loss of her father Edward Byrd (PW) on the death of his mother Dallas Mayo (PW) on the death of his mother-in-law Brenda Matthews (FS) on the death of her father-inlaw Vada Flowers (PW) on the death of his sister Lambert Garris (GPD) on the death of his mother-inlaw

Mark Spellman (PW) on the death of his sister Steven Cottingham (GPD) and David Anderson (GPD) on the death of Steven's father and David's father-in-law

The family of Jimmy Hagans (PW retiree)

RETIREMENTS

RUTH KINLAW, JAMES FILMORE, FAYE WHITFIELD, JOHN TEEL, JUDY BEAMAN, JANICE HARRIS, ANN STORMS, DON YOUNG, AND LAYFORREST WOODHOUSE.

* Due to changes in the Public Information Office, we will celebrate the accomplishments and many years of service of these fine individuals in the *next* edition of the GEM.

"YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS" NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The newly revised and reformatted 2005 edition of the retirement handbook is now available for anyone to read, download, and print at www.nctreasurer.com. **Due to budget constraints, the Retirement System will not be printing these handbooks during the 2004-2005 fiscal year.** The guide to retirement benefits offers a concise, easy to read explanation of the benefits available to City employees.

Questions not answered in the "Your Retirement Benefits" booklet can be answered by Member Services at nc.retirement@nctreasurer.com or by calling one of the following numbers:

Retirees 1-877-733-4191

Employees 1-877-627-3287

CITY PROJECT UPDATES







CITY HALL

The new City Hall is coming along nicely. Public Works Director Tom Tysinger reports that construction is on schedule and slated to be finished by April of 2006. After the current municipal building is vacated, it will likely take about 8 or 9 months to rehab the old structure and allow for the new occupants to move in by the end of 2006.

FIRE STATION #6 & TRAINING CENTER

Look for the new fire station on 10th Street (NC 33 East) to be finished and in use later this summer. The 2-bay substation is nearly completed and will boast rooms for 7, office space, a lounge, a kitchen, an exercise room, a turnout gear room, and a training room. The accompanying 5-story training tower and burn buildings will be delivered in July. They will be completed in mid to late September.





CARVER LIBRARY

Construction is also nearly complete on the renovations to Carver Library. The library will double in size to 8,400 square feet. Patrons will find a multi-purpose room for meetings or shows, an extensive array of computers, and of course, more books. Parking will be easier, as the parking lot will also be doubled in size. Look for the re-opening in mid-August.

GREENVILLE BRIDGE (GREENE STREET BRIDGE)



Originally built in 1927, the bridge supported traffic across the Tar River until 2002. After relocating from one side of the Town Commons to the other, the Greenville Bridge will soon open to foot traffic. The bridge now spans Town Creek and is one of the last Parker Truss bridges in the state. This beautiful structure will serve as the

gateway to the South Tar River Greenway. When

approaching the bridge, you will notice beautiful landscaping and special memorials to our veterans on both sides of the bridge. The re-dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for June 30th.



FIND THE GEM ONLINE AT WWW.GREENVILLENC.GOV

If you know of information, events, or other items of interest, please call Steve Hawley, Public Information Officer at 329-4131

or email me at shawley@greenvillenc.gov